

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance to Contractors – Updated CDC Guidance on Masks

The health and well-being of the entire Library workforce is our paramount concern during the coronavirus pandemic. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have updated mask guidelines indicating that people should wear masks in public settings, at events or gatherings and anywhere they will be around other people. The Library **is reinstating** the requirement for all people to wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status.

There are some circumstances when wearing a mask is not feasible or practicable, for example when eating or drinking. It is also acceptable to remove masks when persons are alone and in their private offices or cubicles with at least 6 feet of separation from other employees in that workspace. Maintaining as much distance as possible from other people, preferably at least 6-10 feet away, is important. Masks are important, but they are NOT a substitute for physical and social distancing. If another person enters the workspace, persons working there must immediately put on masks.

As individuals come into the Library, there are also health precautions to follow in addition to wearing masks, including:

- Conducting the daily self-assessment using the Daily Health Screening Tool before coming onsite, and staying home if you have any symptoms (report symptoms to HSDCOVID-check-in@loc.gov)
- Maintaining a distance of 6 feet from other people regardless of vaccination status
- Limiting onsite capacity and modifying workspaces for extra protection
- Enhanced and specialized cleaning

Contractors will continue to work with their CORs to implement CDC and Library guidance as posted to the Library of Congress Website at: <https://www.loc.gov/about/pandemic-information/for-contractors/>.